

In re Patent Application of:  
**DE LAURENTIIS ET AL.**  
Serial No. 10/679,943  
Filing Date: October 6, 2003

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**REMARKS**

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the thorough examination of the present application. Applicants would also like to thank the Examiner for correctly indicating as allowable the subject matter of dependent Claims 13-18, 21-27 and 33-38.

Independent Claims 9, 19 and 28 have been amended to respectively include the allowable subject matter from dependent Claims 13, 21 and 33 plus the intervening claims. In addition, the claim informalities have been corrected as helpfully noted by the Examiner. A grammatical error has also been corrected in the application.

A copy of the replacement sheet of drawings filed with the Preliminary Amendment on October 6, 2003 is also enclosed. The replacement drawing sheet labels FIGS. 1-2 as prior art.

In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks provided herein, it is submitted that all the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.


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**CONCLUSION**

In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks provided herein, it is submitted that all the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, on this 21 day of September, 2004.

  
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